

POLI-135: COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT

Effective Term

Fall 2013

BOT Approval

10/23/2001

SECTION A - Course Data Elements

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Political Science (Master's Degree)	

Subject Code

POLI - Political Science

Course Number

135

Department

Political Science

Division

Social Sciences (SOCS)

Full Course Title

Comparative Government

Short Title

Comparative Government

CB03 TOP Code

2207.00 - Political Science

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Rationale

Updating to meet PEP requirements.

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

This course presents various analytical methods used to compare political systems. Several countries are examined in a comparative fashion focusing on similarities and differences in interests, institutions, and processes. Country studies vary.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

Open Entry/Open Exit

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites**SECTION D - Course Standards**

Is this course variable unit?

No

Units

3.00

Lecture Hours

54.00

Outside of Class Hours

108

Total Contact Hours

54

Total Student Hours

162

Distance Education Approval

Is this course offered through Distance Education?

Yes

Online Delivery Methods

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Entirely Online	Permanent
Hybrid	Permanent

SECTION E - Course Content**Student Learning Outcomes**

	Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:
1.	Critically analyze several countries in a comparative fashion.
2.	Identify the strengths and weaknesses of cross-national claims.
3.	Produce valid generalizations about political institutions and processes.

Course Objectives

	Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:
1.	Identify the role of the state.
2.	Compare political systems, both in theory and with actual country examples.
3.	Explain the impact of the regional, economic, historical, and cultural factors on political institutions and behavior.
4.	Analyze political systems by using the comparative method.
5.	Distinguish among regime types and their central features.

Course Content

1. Introduce different regime types and their resulting institutions in political systems.
2. Discuss theory regarding the stability of regimes and transitions from one regime type to another.

3. Include actual country examples of each regime type in terms of institutions, processes, political culture, historical context, and role of the people.
4. Discuss the role of the state and popular participation in political and economic development within countries.
5. Introduce the use of the comparative method by utilizing diverse historical, regional, cultural, political, and economic case studies.

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Directed Study	
Discussion	
Lecture	
Other	Projects
Visiting Lecturers	

Online Adaptation

Types	Examples of learning activities
Activity	
Discussion	
Group Work	

Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards
 Chat Rooms
 Discussion Boards
 E-mail Communication
 Video or Teleconferencing

Student-Initiated Online Contact Types

Discussions
 Group Work

Course design is accessible

Yes

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Exams/Tests	Midterm and Final exams using both objective and subjective formats. Example: Compare and contrast 18th century political revolutions from 19th century political revolutions.
Quizzes	
Essays/Papers	
Projects	Term research project. Example: using the Most-Similar Systems research design or the Most-Different Systems research design, compare and contrast countries using institutions or policies as a unit of analysis.
Simulation	
Class Participation	

Assignments

Reading Assignments

Supplemental readings and assignments from periodical sources:

"Latin America's Left Turn." Jorge Casteneda. Foreign Affairs. May/June 2006.

"Zimbabwe After Mugabe." Gideon Maltz. Current History. May 2006.

Writing Assignments

Use analytical frameworks to compare and contrast empirical data.

Example: Using the axes of democracy and capitalism, draw a 4-quadrant box and identify at least two countries that fit into each. Hypothesis generation and testing.

Example: Create a hypothesis about culture and gun control laws and test that hypothesis using 10 randomly chosen countries.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Material Type

Textbook

Author

McCormick, J

Title

Comparative Politics in Transition

Edition/Version

6th

Publisher

Wadsworth

Year

2006

Material Type

Textbook

Author

O'Neil, P

Title

Essentials of Comparative Politics

Edition/Version

4th

Publisher

WW Norton

Year

2012

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Mahler, G

Title

Principles of Comparative Politics

Edition/Version

1st

Publisher

Pearson

Year

2012

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Hauss, C. and Haussman M

Title

Comparative Politics: Domestic Responses to Global Challenges

Edition/Version

8th

Publisher

Wadsworth

Year

2013

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Barrington, L

Title

Comparative Politics: Structures and Choices

Edition/Version

2nd

Publisher

Cengage

Year

2013

Material Type

Other required materials/supplies

Description

FOR CURRENT TEXT SEE TEXTBOOK ADOPTION FORMS ON FILE IN OFFICE
OF INSTRUCTION

SECTION G - Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity

Course Codes (Admin Only)

CB00 State ID

CCC000214009

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

Yes

Only Pass/No Pass

No